

NOTES FROM MEADOWBROOK FARM



Poor seed always demands a discount on the harvest.

Where you have an abundance of manure top dress the grass land.

Feed the concentrates with the more bulky foods to get the best results.

Disk the corn land at every opportunity. It will tell on the crop you grow.

If you do not use a drill in sowing the oats, sow after the first disking of the soil and then disk again.

The cows are the best judges as to the amount of salt which they need. Have a lump in a box where they can get at it.

Choose carefully the mother of your chicks, for they have a right to be well born, hence the wild hen has no place as a hatchery.

The commission business is all right if the man with whom you are dealing is honest. Make sure of this, but sell direct when you can.

A piece of ground which is foul can be cleaned in no easier way than to sow oats and clover in the early spring. Not too late to do it, if done at once.

Success comes to the farmer as it does to the business man by planning the work and then bringing every available resource to bear upon working out the plan.

You may get a little free paint on your barn or other out-buildings or the fence, by letting it to some advertising agency, but it makes your place look cheap and unsightly. Don't do it.

Five essentials to the welfare of chicks. Remember them. First of all they must be kept warm and dry, and then have sufficient food of the right kind, plenty of pure water and fine grits.

When among the stock always keep the eyes and ears open for ideas and information. Make it a point to investigate anything out of the ordinary. Many a trouble can be nipped in the bud by timely attention.

The rust on the plow moldboard did not make the work any easier this spring, now, did it? A few minutes last fall in coating with grease would have made things go easier this spring. Remember this when you put up the implement next fall.

A good feed for young pigs is recommended as consisting of two parts middlings, two parts cornmeal, and to every pound of this mixture add in feeding one or two pounds of skim milk. Oil meal can be used also to good advantage, using a little in each feed.

Mold on the walls and cement floor of damp cellars can be kept down by washing with blue vitriol solution, one pound to five gallons of water. Formalin, one pound to ten gallons, will also prove effective, or a white wash in which an ounce of corrosive sublimate to five gallons has been placed, will do the work.

Some one who has it figured out says that a hen to be profitable to a farmer should give him a profit of one dollar per year. When it is remembered that the farm hen picks up practically all her living it is not hard to find the dollar profit which she makes for the farmer, together with a large surplus as extra good measure.

The amendments to the denatured alcohol law passed by the last congress go into effect next September, and will undoubtedly operate to greatly cheapen it. Farmers who wish will be able to produce it on a small scale by distilling in a suitably locked still, and may have it denatured without the expense of a bonded warehouse. The provisions allowing the transportation of denatured alcohol in tank cars should also materially reduce its cost to the consumer.

The statement that a good cow may be worth as much as 19 ordinary cows sounds pretty big, but here are the facts given by a dairy expert to prove it: In one herd that was tested a profit of \$18.50 per cow per year was realized, and in another herd the profit was \$2.50 per cow per year, or in other words, a cow from the good herd was worth over 19 times as much as one from the inferior herd and was only one-nineteenth the trouble. Test and weigh your milk and weed out the shirkers.

Oats give better returns when drilled in.

The apple of all fruit trees thrives on the greatest variety of soils.

It is not a wise or safe plan to grow potatoes on the same soil each year. Try rotation.

The better the condition in which the farm tool is kept the better work will it perform.

The ideal seed bed should have three or four inches of fine tilth with a good depth of furrow beneath.

The low wagon is the handy wagon around the farm. Have you one? Get an extra set of low wheels, and there you are.

Don't forget as you start the crops and the garden truck that the young plants are babies and should be treated as such.

It rests largely with you whether your seed will fall in good ground and bring forth some 30, some 60 and some a hundred-fold—perhaps.

The first year of the dairy cow should be crowded full of growth, gentleness and good management. Habits formed during the first year will stick through life.

Harrowing performs a two-fold work—that of breaking up the crust, thus forming a mulch that prevents evaporation of soil moisture, and aerating the soil and cultivating the crop.

It is not quite so much a question as to whether the corn will sprout as to whether it will produce a strong healthy plant. Remember this in your germinating tests and note the vigorous plants.

One of the best feeds for hogs is peas. They can be grown with oats and the crop harvested by the hogs when fattening. The time to turn them into such a patch is when the peas are getting hard.

It does not pay to breed to the cheap stallion or bull. How much more trouble or expense is there in raising a good animal than a scrub? Not much, if any, and see what you have when it comes to selling.

Corn is sometimes treated with coal tar, until it is well covered, and then given a coating of land plaster to make the seed dry enough to handle. The taste of tar is not pleasing to the birds, and after a few experiences they usually leave the seed alone.

Water glass is silicate of soda, and for preserving eggs is made by diluting one part in ten parts of pure rain water. The eggs to be preserved must be strictly fresh and are placed in a stone crock and the solution poured on them, the jar being kept in a cool cellar.

The department of agriculture has scored again. It is said that experts have perfected a machine for the removal of fuzz from cotton seed, and the separation of light from heavy seed. This would permit planting with an ordinary gravity drill, and would be a great boon to the cotton planter.

Out in the wheat belt of Oklahoma wheat plant-lice, or so-called "green bugs," are doing much damage, even to the total destruction of some fields of grain. Oats are also attacked. Kerosene emulsion is being used as a spray with good results where the spray is able to reach the pests, but it is too expensive treatment to be used over large areas.

Corn is the most valuable crop raised in the United States, cotton comes second, hay third, wheat fourth, oats fifth; potatoes sixth; barley seventh; tobacco eighth; sugar ninth; flaxseed tenth; rice eleventh; rye twelfth; and hops thirteenth. Probably the most neglected crop and the one that is capable of the largest increase of value is the hay crop.

An experienced horse trainer says it is a mistake to begin to step and speed a colt until he has learned his lessons in manners and docility perfectly. As soon as he is thoroughly dependable and will do as you ask him with rein and voice, you can put him to a lighter training rig, have him shod with perfectly plain shoes, put on light scalpings and quarters boots, and picking out a nice quiet place where there is nothing to bother, ask and teach him to step along some. This is good advice. The training must begin at the beginning. Too often the lessons of obedience and good manners are neglected in the belief that the essential qualities are step and speed.

Farmers who read the following story will perhaps look for checks for losses suffered at the hands of unknown persons in past years, for what happens once may happen again. We hope they will not be disappointed. The published report is that Rev. W. W. Hilt of Duaneburg, N. Y., had sent a check to Lee Shroads, a dairyman at Cedarville, O., for \$50 to pay for a cow. When Mr. Hilt was a boy herding cows along the Ohio lake, near Cedarville, he threw a stone at a cow, breaking its leg. The animal had to be killed. Shroads, the owner, never knew who injured the cow until he received the check and an explanatory note from the Duaneburg pastor.

MAIL ORDER EVIL

ITS RISE IS NOT THE RESULT OF LEGITIMATE DEMAND.

DUE ENTIRELY TO GREED

And It Feeds Upon the Prosperity of the Country Towns—A Menace to the Nation.

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As the years go by we are more than ever brought face to face with the vital question of trading at home. During the past decade the habit of buying goods abroad has grown to such proportions that the country merchant may well feel alarmed at the probable outcome unless something is done to forestall the great calamity which will surely result therefrom.

Trade conditions 25 years ago were satisfactory. At that time catalogue houses were entirely unknown and country merchants were "monarchs of all they surveyed," so to speak, in the lines represented, and the people were prosperous and happy. Perhaps not so much because they generally had money enough to meet their wants, but because of the contentment that prevailed throughout the country at that time. The farmers raised good crops, generally, and received good prices for what they had to sell. They sold their surplus stuff to the local merchant and bought what they wanted; and this was the height of

their ambition, hence the contentment that prevailed.

But in after years, when cities grew and trade expanded, the merchants of these cities not being content with conditions of trade, devised plans by which they might reach out for more business. Advertising in the newspapers being a cheap way of putting the merits of their goods before the people, this plan appealed to them and it was adopted. At first they operated on a small scale; then, as the merchant saw the opportunity for making it pay, he added to his advertising fund. And so it has continued until to-day millions of dollars are annually sent to mail order houses by the people of the United States.

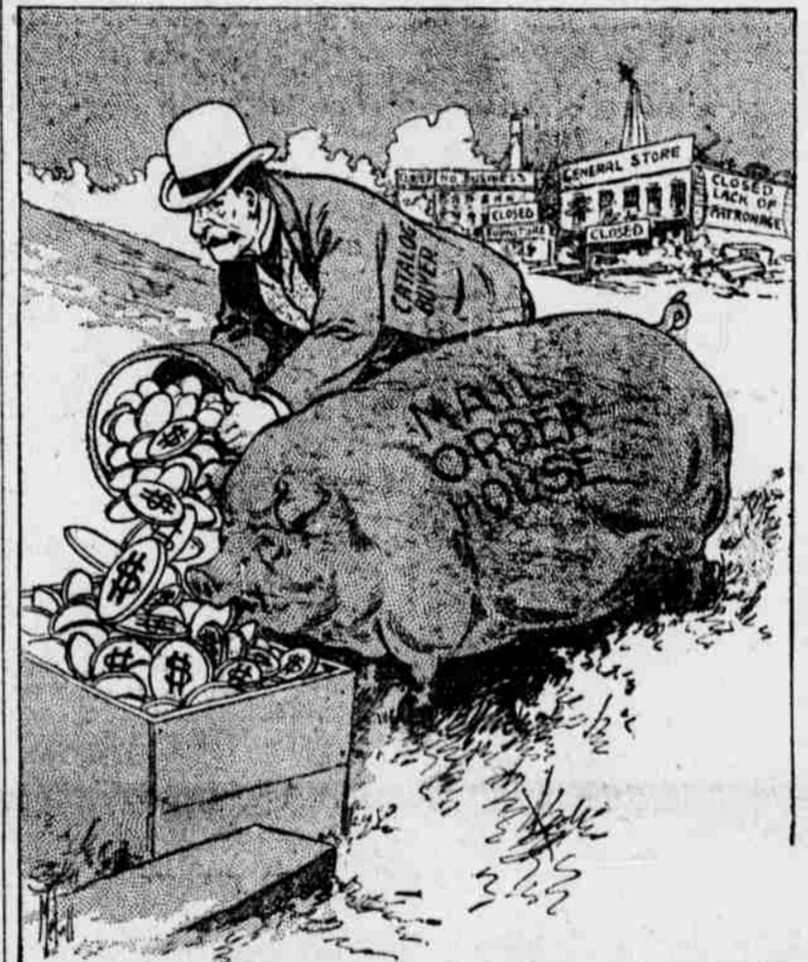
The best and most effective way to throttle the catalogue house has been a question uppermost in the minds of country merchants for several years past; some advocating one plan and some another. There are several plans which might be presented to induce the farmer to buy at home. In the first place his pride might be appealed to. There are very few farmers who own their own farms but that would be interested in building up his own locality. He realizes the fact that if his farm is to be valuable it must be farmed in the most scientific manner and all buildings, fences, etc., must be kept up in the best possible shape, and above all the farm must be located not too far from some good town, for we all know that farm land brings a much better price when near to some good town or village. It is not hard to get the farmer to realize this, for if he ever sold any farm land or tried to sell any, he knows this to be a fact. Well, then, after he has realized this fact, the thing for him to do is to patronize his home merchants and business men, so they may be able to build and maintain a good town.

Public schools are much better in the towns than in the country for the reason that where the population is most dense, there is more taxable property to the amount of territory covered, hence there is more money collected for school purposes, and as a result more and better teachers are employed. All this is of the highest importance to the farmer, as most farmers who are of any importance in their profession are interested in giving their boys and girls a good edu-

cation. And right here is where the good town proposition comes to him with great force. He knows he can send his children to the village school at a great deal less expense than to send them away to college, and that in most cases better results are obtained.

If the farmer seriously desires all these good things he must of necessity help to build them. Let him understand that he is one of the main spokes in the great wheel of commerce in his vicinity and that he can ill-afford to send abroad to purchase even the smallest item of merchandise, though it may seem to him that he is saving a few cents by doing so. It seems that it could be easily pointed out to him that if there was no town near him and he had to drive 20 or 30 miles to take his produce to market and haul his groceries the same distance home, he could easily see that his land would greatly depreciate in value and the disadvantages he would encounter on every hand would be very disastrous to his time and he would gladly spend his money at home to divert this calamity.

One of the most potent levers with which to control trade in country localities is the liberal use of printers' ink, coupled with intelligence in advertising the wares of the merchant. The catalogue houses employ the best talent obtainable to write their advertisements and spend large sums of money in this way. Besides advertising judiciously they advertise on a large scale and consequently get the business. The old saying that "You must fight the devil with fire" will apply in this case. The home merchant must advertise. He must do more than



Are you, Mr. Resident of This Community, feeding the mail order hog the dollars of this community? Are you pouring the money that should stay in the home town into the trough from which the gluttonous hogs of the city feed? If so you are doing not only the town, but yourself, an irreparable injury, and one that you should stop at once.

say: "Come to Smith's to trade, cheapest place on earth." He must describe his merchandise as he would in private conversation over the counter to a customer, and then quote the price. This will nearly always get as a clincher and will at least put him on a standing with the catalogue house. In fact it will give him an advantage over the catalogue house, for in almost every case he can sell the same grade of merchandise cheaper than the catalogue house can sell it. This is not mere theory but a statement of fact, for the reason that the country merchant's business is operated at a very much less expense than that of the mail order merchant. There are a thousand and one items of expense which the city merchant has to meet that are entirely unknown to the country merchant.

The time is rapidly approaching when people who patronize mail order houses will be looked upon as "soothers" by the solid and influential citizens of all commonwealths and will suffer ostracism at their hands. Cities and towns are built by combined efforts of the residents thereof; not by foreign capital. So too are our churches and schoolhouses built. It may be true that in many instances eastern capital has been employed to make improvements in the west, but always with good round interest to the lender of the money. No one ever heard of a case where an eastern man or firm contributed to western enterprise for the fun of the thing. Nor did you ever hear of a case where any mail order or catalogue house ever contributed to any church building fund. Nor yet did they ever build or help to build any of our schoolhouses. You never heard of a case of this kind and you never will. All these eastern sharks care for is your dollar, and you know it, and when they have gotten that they have no more use for you. Then why should you patronize them? You can go to your home merchant any day in the year and if you are short of change, he will extend you credit. If you are sick and unable to work the home merchant will see that your family is provisioned until you get on your feet again. He will do all of this and at the same time furnish the same grade of goods at the same or even at a less price. Will the catalogue merchant do this?

Gov. Folk has ordered R. C. Williams of Sedalia brought back to the penitentiary for violating his parole. Williams was sent to the penitentiary in July, 1904, for two years for perjury. In July, 1905, Gov. Folk released him on condition that he obey the laws.

Now the Insurance Companies. Herbert S. Hadley, the attorney general, has under investigation the fire insurance companies and should developments establish fact sufficient to warrant action against them for violating the anti-trust laws in the matter of rates, he will begin such proceedings.

Annual M. S. U. Mock Trial.

The annual mock trial given by the senior law students in the University of Missouri was held recently. The case was "The Republic of Rome vs. Marcus Brutus." E. W. Hinton of the law school presided. The jury consisted of such men as Roosevelt, carrying his big stick and Bryan wearing his crown of thorns and cross of gold. In the evidence admitted concerning the actions of members of the faculty and townspeople one professor was shown in a slightly intoxicated condition.

Happenings in Missouri.

The University Y. M. C. A. Building.

The cornerstone of the Young Men's Christian association building, at the University of Missouri, was laid recently, in the university auditorium ex-Judge Seden P. Spencer of St. Louis made an address on the work of the Y. M. C. A. in the United States. He congratulated the University of Missouri for being the first school in the state to erect an association building. After the exercises a parade was formed in front of the college of arts and science under Cap. Joseph Frazier, grand marshal of the day, composed of the university band, university cadets, Knights Templar officers of the grand lodge of Missouri, A. F. and A. M., Master Masons and association members. The stone was laid with Masonic ceremonies by the deputy grand master, Frank E. Bruton of Sturgeon. The building site is at the northwest corner of Eighth and Elm streets, adjoining the university campus. The structure will cost \$60,000 when completed and furnished. Of this amount \$45,000 has been provided. By recent action of the student body a swimming pool and a bowling alley have been made possible. In addition to these the building will contain reading rooms, dining hall, kitchen, association offices, pool hall and a small auditorium.

A Stenographer at 11 Years.

Miss Winnie Frances Owen is the name of a bright little girl of 11 who has made a record with Pitman shorthand that astonishes veteran stenographers. In a recent test certified by W. L. Young, cashier of the Farmers' State bank at Greentop, Winnie wrote in three and one half minutes 430 words so legibly that she read them back in three minutes. The reading of the notes is as difficult a feat as writing them and this accomplishment in the short time mentioned places the young writer among the experts. The legal requirement for court work is only a shade higher and for general office work it is considerably above the average.

He Protected Prison Guards.

Last fall, when a negro convict stabbed J. W. Woods, a guard at the penitentiary to death with a shoe knife, William Sheridan, another negro convict, protected the other officers from attack by the prisoner, who was mortally wounded before he was subdued. Sheridan was badly cut by the convict in his efforts to protect the officers. Warden Hall and the other prison officials asked Folk to pardon Sheridan as a reward for his heroism. Gov. Folk granted the request by releasing Sheridan by a commutation of sentence. Sheridan came to the penitentiary in June, 1903, from St. Louis, for ten years for assault with intent to kill.

Helped Columbia.

The last of the 903 persons who gave \$90,000 to secure the state university for Columbia is dead. He was Col. M. P. Lientz of Fulton. During the Civil war Col. Lientz lived on a farm near Rocheport and was a staunch southern sympathizer. The provost marshal ordered his death and his home burned, but was kept from accomplishing his purpose by Gen. Guitlar, a Union soldier of Columbia, who was his life-long friend. At the time of his death he had in his possession the letter from Gen. Guitlar warning him that he had been selected by the Union authorities to suffer the death penalty for his assistance to the confederate cause.

Large Live Stock Movement.

Last month's live stock receipts at the Kansas City stock yards was 1,722 cars more than in April, 1906, and the largest for April in the history of the yards. The total was 11,612 cars, including 189,067 cattle, 254,574 hogs, 130,137 sheep, and 5,675 horses and mules. The increases of the figures for April, 1906 are: Cattle 32,345, hogs, 335,788, sheep, 9,574.

For Violating His Parole.

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An Old Suit Revived.

A lawsuit that has been in the courts 32 years was argued again in the supreme court recently. All of the original parties to the suit have died long ago. The lawyers who brought the original case in 1875 and the judge who tried it first have also died, as have all except two of the witnesses. The suit grew out of a contract that was made in 1870, by the terms of which William S. Sugg, then a merchant at Kennett in Dunklin county, contracted with the county court of Dunklin to make the Varner and St. Francis rivers navigable within the county for boats 100 feet long and 20 feet wide, and was paid for the work with a deed for 20,010 acres of land in the swamp district of the county. Sugg became deeply involved in debt and one day transferred to his brother, Wiley P. Sugg, all the land for \$1,380 and a contract by which his brother agreed to finish the work. William Sugg soon went into bankruptcy. The brother bought a small boat and dug some snags out of the channel but did not spend much money on his work. The creditors of William S. Sugg brought suit to set aside the conveyance as fraudulent, the St. Francis Mill company taking the leading part. Wiley P. Sugg, while denying that there was any sort of fraud in the conveyance, offered to pay his brother's debts if the creditors would take land at \$10 per acre. That price seemed preposterous at that time, though the land is now worth \$100 an acre. It is of the finest alluvial soil, some of the richest land in the state, and is now cut up into fine and valuable farms. The suit has been tried three times.

Here's a Missouri Moses.

A baby boy, apparently a few weeks old, was fished from the river north of Ellington, by the children of John Ashburn, a farmer. The boy was wrapped in a quilt and strapped to a small raft made of a basket. The raft floated down the creek and lodged in the willows where the young people were fishing. They pulled it ashore supposing it to be a bundle of rags. The baby was well and began to cry. It was carried home by the children and is now in the possession of the farmer's wife.

A Reunion of Yankees.

Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Yankee, pioneers of Jackson county, held a family reunion at Walnut park farm, south of Lone Jack. It was the occasion of Mr. Yankee's eighty-fourth birthday. The eleven children and 26 of the 45 grandchildren were present. All of the children have not been at home before in 21 years. Mr. Yankee and his wife have lived in Jackson county 71 years. They were married in 1855.

Found Dead in His Chair.

Ex-Judge John T. Stouffer, of the Saline county court, was found dead sitting in a chair in his room at his country home near Naptonville. He was born in Maryland in 1838. Shortly after his birth his parents moved to Virginia, where the judge resided until he was 21. Judge Stouffer was a prominent Mason and also a member of the M. E. church, South.

Aged Minister Dead.

Rev. J. C. Given, Chaplain of the Sixth regiment of Missouri volunteers during the Spanish-American war died at Springfield recently of paralysis, aged 63 years. Rev. Given was stricken while delivering a sermon at Marshfield, Missouri on April 17. He had filled pulpits in the Methodist church in Missouri for the past 38 years.

Why Leave the Farm.

We know of farmers' wives making over \$60 per month on poultry alone in connection with other routine work. Yet we have boys and girls that want to rush off to the city to become street car conductors or clerks or stenographers at far less wages, and where accumulation of property is impossible.

Because He Asked For Whisky.

The question, "Say, boy, can you get me some whisky?" cost Jack Allison of Grayson his life. Allison addressed the 12-year-old son of Hayes Collier. The boy's father, who happened to be near, resented Allison's question and struck him with a knife.

Negro Centenarian Dies.

Mrs. Ellen Phillips, a negro aged 101 years, died at her home in Georgetown. She was a native of Kentucky, and before the war was a slave in the family of Colonel Cassius M. Clay. "Aunt Ellen" lived in Pettis county for more than 50 years.

Burglars in a Postoffice.

Burglars entered the postoffice at Higginsville and drilled a hole in the safe door, but were evidently frightened away as they did not blow the safe open. A small amount of cash in pennies and some stamps were taken from the cash drawer. The mail sacks were rifled and their contents scattered about the floor.

A Carthage Incident.

While two lawyers in a Carthage justice court fought with knives the prisoner fled and cannot be found.